

Pest Control Policy

Reason this policy is important:

Exposure to pests (insects, cockroaches, rats, mice, etc.) pest residue, and the chemicals used to control them can aggravate or cause health problems for children and staff. Allergic reactions to pest residues and the absorption of chemicals used for pests control often are more serious for children due to their smaller size and proximity to the floor.

Procedure and Practices, including responsible person(s):

- _____ is the designated Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Coordinator for this facility. This person will act as a liaison between the building occupants and the pest management professional. The facility will avoid routine use of pesticides not exempted below.
- Regular inspections will be performed by a pest management professional (who is knowledgeable about IPM) or another person who is knowledgeable about pest biology and habits. The inspector will note situations that are conducive to pest populations and recommend repairs, sealing of pest entry points, clutter reduction, improved sanitation, and monitoring procedures.
- _____ Pest Control Company name (if used) or inspector name
- _____ Phone Number
- _____ Address
- Repairs will be performed as needed to prevent pest access to buildings or to hiding spaces in walls and equipment. Water leaks will be repaired and standing water will be eliminated whenever possible.
- Proper sanitation will be maintained and clutter reduced to prevent food and harborage for pests.
- Pest management decisions will be based on the results of regular inspections.
- If a pesticide is needed, the least hazardous pesticide is selected that will effectively control the pest problem.
- Pesticides used at this facility will be applied by certified pesticide applicators or registered technicians that have working knowledge of IPM principles and practices.
- Pesticides will not be applied when children are present at the facility. Toys and other items mouthed or handled by the children will be removed from the area before pesticides are applied. Children will not return to the treated area within two hours of a pesticide application or as specified on the pesticide label, whichever time is greater.
- In the event of an emergency where pests pose an immediate health threat to children and staff (e.g. wasps) and pesticides are applied, ensure that children will not return to the treated area within two hours of a pesticide application or as specified on the pesticide label, whichever time is greater.
- At least two operational days but not more than 30 days advance notice of pesticide application will be given to parents and staff except in emergencies where pests pose an immediate health threat to children or staff (e.g. wasps). (Pesticide Notification form)
- Parents and staff will be notified as soon as possible when advance notice is not provided and include an explanation of the emergency, the reason for the late notice and the name of pesticide applied.
- All records of pesticide applications and advance notices will be available upon request for at least 90 days.

Exemptions

This policy does not apply to the following exempted uses of pesticides:

- 1) Germicides, disinfectants, bactericides, sanitizing agents, and chemicals used in normal cleaning activities;
- 2) Personal insect repellents applied to the person with parental consent; and
- 3) Gel bait or manufactured enclosed insecticides where children do not have access to the bait.
(Granular baits and rodent baits are not exempt.)

When this policy applies:

This policy applies at all times for this child care program.

Communication plan for staff and parents:

- _____ will cover policies, plans, and procedures with all new staff (paid and volunteer) during orientation training. They will sign that they have read, understand and agree to abide by the content of the policies.
- During enrollment this policy will be reviewed by _____ with the parents. Parents will sign that they have read, understand, and agree to abide by the content of the policies.
- A copy of all policies will be available during all hours of operation to staff and parents in the policy handbook located _____.
- Parents may receive a copy of the policy at anytime upon request. A summary of this policy will be included in the parent handbook.
- Parents and staff will receive written notification of any updates.

References:

Purdue University: www.entm.purdue.edu/entomology/outreach/schoolipm/

Indiana Department of Environmental Management: www.in.gov/idem or 888-233-7745

Caring for Our Children – <http://nrc.uchsc.edu>

Reviewed by: _____ Director/Owner

_____ IPM Coordinator

_____ Health Professional (physician, nurse, health department, EMS, Health consultant)

_____ Staff member

_____ Other (parent, advisory committee, police, CPS)

Effective Date and Review Date:

This policy is effective ____/____/____ and will be reviewed annually by ____/____/____ or sooner if needed. Parents and staff will be notified of any upcoming policy review.

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